

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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O 081121Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2543
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 2175
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 5051

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR UN SF WA
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO SOUTH AFRICA ON NAMIBIA

REF: STATE 078517

1. USUN OFFICER HIRSCH BREIFED AMBASSADORS HARRIMAN AND KAMANE APRIL 8 REGARDING THE JOINT DEMARCHE ON NAMIBIA DELIVERED TO SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AS PER INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL. HE INFORMED SALIN OF THE FACT THAT THE DEMARCHE HAS TAKEN PLACE BUT, AT SALIM'S REQUEST, DEFERRED DISCUSSION OF DETAILS UNTIL APRIL 9. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO CONTACT JAIPAL BUT WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK EARLY APPOINTMENT.

2. HARRIMAN SAID THAT HE WAS VERY PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE DEMARCHE HAD TAKEN PLACE SINCE ITS APPROACH WAS CONSONANT WITH THAT OF THE AFRICAN STATES. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN BETTER IF IT COULD HAVE BEEN A DEMARCH FROM ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.
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HARRIMAN EXPRESSED REGRET TAHT THE DEMARCHE HAD NOT TAKEN PALCE ONE DAY EARLIER SINCE COMMISSIONER GARBA'S PLENARY SPEECH TO THE NACCFM REFERRED TO THE CONTINUED UNWILLINGNESS OT THE WESTETN POWERS TO APPLY POLITICAL PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA.

3. KAMANA DID NOT PROVIDE ANY ASSESSMENT OF THE

DEMARCHE, INSTEAD ASKIN FOR INFORMATION REGARDING VORSTRE'S REACTION.
HIRSCH SAID THAT HE WOULD PASS ON THIS REQUEST TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG.

4.HIRSCH ALSO USED OPPORTUNITY OF DISCUSSION WITH
HARRIMAN AND KAMANA TO SEEK THEIR VIEWS REGARDING THE
SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. (NOTE: USUN
1060ARRIVED HERE AFTER THESE MEETINGS HAD TAKEN PLACE.)
HARRIMAN, ECHOING THE VIEW OF AMBASSADOR JAIPAL, SAID THAT
THE FOUR UN PERMREPS HERE FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY
OF A DECLARATION. NIGERIA BELIEVES THAT AN APPROPRIATELY
WORDED DECLARATION WOULD BE A GOOD STEP FORWARD. THE PROBLEMS
IN NEW YORK ARE PARTLY THOSE OF PERSONALITIES (HE
SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED RAMPHUL), PARTLY SOVIET AND CHINESE
OBJECTIONS, AND PARTLY WESTERN HAGGLING OVER LANGUAGE. THE
BRITISH, HE SAID, WERE CREATING A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS. FOR
INSTANCE, THEY OBJECTED TO THE USE OF THE WORD "AGGRESSION"
BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED IT IMPLIED A COMMITMENT TO MANDATORY CHAPTER
VII.THE BRITISH ALSO
WERE INTERESTED IN PROTECTING THE POSITION OF MUZOREWA.
NIGERIA WAS LESS CONCERNED
ABOUT SPECIFIC PERSONALITIES IN THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS;
IST COMMITMENT WAS TO THE PRINCIPLE OF AN IMPORTANT ROLE
FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN BRINGING ABOUT CHANGE IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA. HARRIMAN ALSO NOTED THAT THE
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS HAD NOT SENT ANY OBSERVERS
FROM NEW YORK TO THE NACCFM AND WERE REPRESENTED HERE
ONLY BY THE THREE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES.

5. THE NEW DELHI MEETING, HARRIMAN SAID, WOULD NOT BE
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AN IMPEDIMENT TO RESUMPTION OF THE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A
DECLARATION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA IN NEW YORK. THE
NACCFM COMMUNIQUE QOULD NOT MENTION THE SECURITY COUNCIL
DEBATE AT ALL. INSTEAD, IT WOULD STATE THE GENERAL NON-
ALIGNED POSITION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA.

6. KAMANA SAID THAT HE WAS ANXIOUS TO AVOID ANY INFERENCE
THAT THE UN PERMREPS PRESENTLY IN NEW DELHI WERE
TRYING TO DO ANYTHING CONTRARY TO THE WHISHES OF THE AFRICAN
GROUP. THE FOUR DID NOT WANT IT TO APPEAR THAT THEY WERE
ASKING THE AFRICAN GROUP TO WAIT FOR THEM TO RETURN TO
NEW YORK; IF IT WERE POSSIBLE FOR SERIOUS CONSULTATIONS ON
THE DECLARATION TO CONTINUE BEFORE THEN, THEY SHOULD GO
FORWARD. ON THE OTHER HAND, KAMANA ADDED, HE WAS PREPARED
TO TAKE PART IN THESE DICUSSIONS WHEN HE RETURNED TO NEW YORK.

7. KAMANA CONTINUED THAT HE HOPED IT WAS CLEAR
TO US THAT THE AFRICANS WERE SEEKING TO WORK OUT
AN ACCEPTABLE DECLARATION BECAUSE THEY WERE TRYING TO

GIVE THE NEW US ADMINISTRATION A CHANCE TO FORMULATE A FRESH APPROACH TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE LEADERS OF THE OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES WERE NOT NEWCOMERS ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE. THEREFORE, HE FELT, THE US HAD TO TAKE THE LEAD IN GETTING THE OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS TO UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH THE AFRICAN STATES HAVE WITH THE WESTERN PROPOSALS. ZAMBIA WAS WILLING TO AGREE TO A DECLARATION WITH THE RIGHT LANGUAGE IN IT, BUT IT WOULD NOT AGREE TO ONE WHICH FAILS TO MEET THE CONDITIONS WHICH THE AFRICANS REGARD AS REASONABLE.
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